What is claimed is:

     1.   A mixing apparatus comprising:

an input device that inputs a plurality of first

5 audio data

     a mixing device that mixes the input plurality of
first audio data;

     a storage device that stores a plurality of second
audio data;

10   a plurality of operating members each being disposed
to be depressed and having a sensor for detecting the
depression;

     an assigning device that assigns at least one of the
plurality of second audio data stored in said storage

15 device , respectively, to at least one of said plurality
of operating members; and

     a reproducing device that reproduces the second
audio data when the at least one of said plurality of
operating members to which the second audio data is

20 assigned is detected as being depressed;

     wherein said input device inputs the second audio
data reproduced by said reproducing device; and

     said mixing device mixes the input second audio data
and the input first audio data.

25   2. A mixing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
at least two of said plurality of operating members are
disposed adjacent to each other, and if the second audio
data to be assigned is stereo audio data of two channels,
said assigning device assigns the stereo audio data of

30 two channels to the two adjacent operating members among
said plurality of operating members.

     3. A mixing apparatus comprising:

an input device that inputs a plurality of first
audio data

35   a mixing device that mixes the input plurality of

first audio data;

a first storage device that stores a plurality of second audio data;

a plurality of operating members each being disposed to be depressed and having a sensor for detecting the depression;

an assigning device that assigns at least one of the plurality of second audio data stored in said first storage device, respectively, to at least one of said plurality of operating members;

a second storage device; and

a first control device that causes said second storage device to temporarily store the assigned second audio data;

a reproducing device that reads out and reproduces the second audio data from said second storage device when the at least one of said plurality of operating members to which the second audio data is assigned is detected as being depressed; and

a second control device that causes said second storage device to store timing data specifying timing of reading out the second audio data when said reproducing device reproduces the second audio data.

4. A mixing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the second audio data caused to be stored by said first control device and the timing data caused to be stored by said second control device are stored in separate areas in said second storage device.

5. A mixing device comprising:

an input device that inputs a plurality of first audio data;

a built-in hard disk device that stores a plurality of second audio data;

an external storage device that stores a plurality of third audio data;

a plurality of operating members each being disposed to be depressed and having a sensor for detecting the depression;

an assigning device that assigns at least one of the
5   plurality of second audio data stored in said built-in hard disk device and at least one of the plurality of third audio data stored in said external storage device, respectively, to at least one of said plurality of operating members;

10   a memory;

a control device that is responsive to said assigning device assigning the third audio data, respectively, to the at least one of said plurality of operating members, for causing said built-in hard disk
15   device to temporarily store the assigned second audio data and causing said memory to store the assigned third audio data, said control device being further responsive to said assigning device assigning the second audio data, respectively, to the at least one of said plurality of
20   operating members, for reading out the assigned second audio data from said built-in hard disk device and causing said memory to temporarily store the assigned second audio data without double storing the assigned second audio data in said built-in hard disk; and

25   a reproducing device that reads out and reproduces the second or third audio data from said memory when the at least one of said plurality of operating members to which the second or third audio data is assigned is detected as being depressed.

30   6. A mixing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said operating members are pads.

7. A mixing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said operating members are pads.

8. A mixing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein
35   said operating members are pads.

9. A method of controlling a mixing apparatus, comprising:

an input step of inputting a plurality of first audio data;

5 a mixing step of mixing the input plurality of first audio data ;

a storing step of storing a plurality of second audio data in a storage device;

an assigning step of assigning at least one of the
10 plurality of second audio data stored in said storage device, respectively, to at least one of a plurality of operating members each disposed to be depressed and having a sensor for detecting the depression;

a reproducing step of reproducing the second audio
15 data when the at least one of the plurality of operating members to which the second audio data is assigned is detected as being depressed;

wherein said input step comprises inputting the second audio data reproduced in said reproducing step;
20 and

said mixing step comprises mixing the input second audio data and the input first audio data.

10. A method of controlling a mixing apparatus, comprising:
25 an input step of inputting a plurality of first audio data;

a mixing step of mixing the input plurality of first audio data;

a storing step of storing a plurality of second
30 audio data in a first storage device;

an assigning step of assigning at least one of the plurality of second audio data stored in the first storage device, respectively, to at least one of a plurality of operating members each disposed to be
35 depressed and having a sensor for detecting the

depression;

a first controlling step of causing a second storage device to temporarily store the assigned second audio data;

5 a reproducing step of reading out and reproducing the second audio data from the second storage device when the at least one of the plurality of operating members to which the second audio data is assigned is detected as being depressed; and

10 a second controlling step of causing the second storage device to store timing data specifying timing of reading out the second audio data when the second audio data is reproduced in said reproducing step.

11. A method of controlling a mixing device,
15 comprising:

an input step of inputting a plurality of first audio data;

a mixing step of the input plurality of first audio data;

20 a first storing step of storing a plurality of second audio data in a built-in hard disk device;

a second storing step of storing a plurality of third audio data in an external storage device;

an assigning step of assigning at least one of the
25 plurality of second audio data stored in the built-in hard disk device and at least one of the third audio data stored in the external storage device, respectively, to at least one of a plurality of operating members each disposed to be depressed and having a sensor for
30 detecting the depression;

a controlling step of causing, in response to assigning the third audio data, respectively, to the at least one of said plurality of operating members in said assigning step, the built-in hard disk device to
35 temporarily store the assigned second audio data and

causing said memory to store the assigned third audio
data, and reading out, in response to assigning the
second audio data, respectively, to the at least one of
said plurality of operating members in said assigning

5   step, the assigned second audio data from the built-in
hard disk device and causing the memory to temporarily
store the assigned second audio data without double
storing the assigned second audio data in the built-in
hard disk; and

10   a reproducing step of reading out and reproducing
the second or third audio data from the memory when the
at least one of the plurality of operating members to
which the second or third audio data is assigned is
detected as being depressed.

15   12. A mixing control program executed by a computer,
said program comprising:
    an input module for inputting a plurality of first
audio data;
    a mixing module for mixing the input plurality of

20   first audio data;
    a storing module for storing a plurality of second
audio data in a storage device;
    an assigning module for assigning at least one of
the plurality of second audio data stored in said storage

25   device, respectively, to at least one of a plurality of
operating members each disposed to be depressed and
having a sensor for detecting the depression;
    a reproducing module for reproducing the second
audio data when the at least one of said plurality of

30   operating members to which the second audio data is
assigned is detected as being depressed;
    wherein said input module comprises inputting the
second audio data reproduced in said reproducing module;
and

35   said mixing module comprises mixing the input second

audio data and the input first audio data.

13. A mixing control program executed by a computer, said program comprising:

an input module for inputting a plurality of first audio data;

a mixing module for mixing the input plurality of first audio data;

a storing module for storing a plurality of second audio data in a first storage device;

an assigning module for assigning at least one of the plurality of second audio data stored in the first storage device, respectively, to at least one of a plurality of operating members each disposed to be depressed and having a sensor for detecting the depression;

a first controlling module for causing a second storage device to temporarily store the assigned second audio data;

a reproducing module for reading out and reproducing the second audio data from the second storage device when the at least one of said plurality of operating members to which the second audio data is assigned is detected as being depressed; and

a second controlling module for causing the second storage device to store timing data specifying timing of reading out the second audio data when the second audio data is reproduced in said reproducing module.

14. A mixing control program executed by a computer, said program comprising:

an input module for inputting a plurality of first audio data;

a mixing module for the input plurality of first audio data;

a first storing module for storing a plurality of second audio data in a built-in hard disk device;

a second storing module for storing a plurality of third audio data in an external storage device;

an assigning module for assigning at least one of the plurality of second audio data stored in the built-in hard disk device and at least one of the third audio data stored in the external storage device, respectively, to at least one of a plurality of operating members each disposed to be depressed and having a sensor for detecting the depression;

a controlling module for causing, in response to assigning the third audio data, respectively, to the at least one of said plurality of operating members in said assigning module, the built-in hard disk device to temporarily store the assigned second audio data and causing said memory to store the assigned third audio data, and reading out, in response to assigning the second audio data, respectively, to the at least one of said plurality of operating members in said assigning module, the assigned second audio data from the built-in hard disk device and causing the memory to temporarily store the assigned second audio data without double storing the assigned second audio data in the built-in hard disk; and

a reproducing module for reading out and reproducing the second or third audio data from the memory when the at least one of the plurality of operating members to which the second or third audio data is assigned is detected as being depressed.